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Chicopee Register

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Church removes nearly 80,000 bees

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

The First Congregational Church of Chicopee is the city's oldest congregation; its rich tradition dates back to 1751, and its current place of worship on Chicopee Street opened in 1852.

More history was written earlier this month when 80,000 honey bees were removed from a church pillar. The sweet sensation was unlike any that the congregation had experienced before.

"They've been here for several years but were becoming a problem, and we are getting ready to refurbish the church. We were able to get a guy to come in and remove the hives for us," the Rev. Gary Grimes said, noting he called on Nate Sperry to complete the task.

Sperry, a beekeeper who serves as vice president of the Hampden County Beekeepers Association, removed multiple hives from a pillar in front of the church. Grimes estimated that the highest hive was located nearly 75 feet above the ground.

"He got the bees pretty angry. They were buzzing around and everything. It was a tedious job; it took him about six-and-a-half hours to remove them," said Grimes.

Right, Nate Sperry, vice president of the Hampden County Beekeepers Association, holds a piece of beehive removed from First Congregational Church. Nearly 80,000 honey bees had taken up residence inside an exterior pillar. Left, a portion of beehive. *SUBMITTED PHOTOS/GARY GRIMES*

The congregation contemplated hiring an exterminator, but community contributions enabled Sperry's hiring. Local and regional newscasts covered the fundraising campaign, and donations arrived from as far away as Cape Cod.

Incredibly, very few bees were injured during the removal process. Sperry placed the honeycomb and hives in secure pans and returned to the church a day later to remove any stragglers. Grimes was impressed by the outcome.

"What's really remarkable is that we were able to save these bees," he said. "The bee population is dwindling so they are pretty important. They pollinate all of our crops and everything so in order to save these two hives of 80,000 bees was amazing."

While several dozen "robber bees" are still active in the former hives, cleaning up whatever honey remains, Sperry estimates that they will

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COMMUNITY

Forum pursues options to increase food accessibility

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

On the evening of July 15, the Chicopee Center Food Force held its first virtual forum. Approximately 15 participants joined in on the conversation, brainstorming different ways to increase food accessibility downtown.

"We see this as a movement that's just going to keep building and would love to have more folks at the table; as many as possible," said Greta Shwachman, a team member and the city's Farm to School Program coordinator.

The newly established Chicopee Center Food Force is working on ways to increase food accessibility in the city's downtown. *FILE PHOTO*

The group banded together earlier this summer in pursuit of a vision making Chicopee Center more food accessible, and is creatively searching for a means to do so. The Covid-19 pandemic has shined a bright light on the need for greater food equality in the city, specifically downtown.

The July 15 online forum occurred in several phases. First, participants introduced themselves and explained their incentive for joining.

Next they broke out into small groups to imagine and share their "ideal food experience" in the West End. Shwachman felt as though the initiative was successful and that progress was made.

"It was a really active group. It was great to have some more in-depth discussion and be able to have everyone share," she said. "We heard a lot of very interesting ideas. Some ideas that came out of it were more outdoor dining space, potentially shutting down streets either permanently or temporarily for events or farmers' markets."

Shwachman acknowledged that the team does not know if all of the ideas are feasible but enjoyed the session and valued the input. The possibility of a mobile market component was one of several that caught her attention.

"We had Anne Gancarz from the Chicopee Public Li-

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Longtime principal adapts to new role

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Sinkhole by surprise

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

A tremendous sinkhole took a driver by surprise on June 15 at the intersection of Chicopee Street and Raymond Avenue. A vehicle attempting to turn right was partially swallowed after a flex break in a water mane caused the sewer line to cave in.

"Then, with all the water pushing all of the soil, it pushed the soil into the sewer mane because it was an open void. All of the material from beneath the road; all the dirt and all the sand went down the sewer mane creating a huge cavity, creating a sinkhole," explained Elizabette Botelho, superintendent of the Department of Public Works.

Fortunately, there were no reported injuries. Botelho acknowledged that the situation could have been worse if not for the eight-inch thick pavement that laid atop the sinkhole.

"It's really thick pavement there because of the high traffic on Chicopee Street so the pavement actually held up. Otherwise, the hole beneath it was about 10 feet deep," she said.

Botelho stressed that the sinkhole did not occur naturally. She likened the event to a "perfect storm," and listed the sequence that gave way to the incident.

"We had a water main near an old clay tile pipe, and it gave way. It was a large diameter pipe and went unnoticed for a little bit longer than we would have liked, therefore creating a huge void below the surface of the pavement," said Botelho.

Upon learning of the sinkhole, the Water and Highway departments responded to the scene, excavated the vehicle and debris, and repaired the water main. An on-call contractor then arrived to patch the sewer line.

"It's back-filled temporarily, and we are bypass pumping the sewer because, obviously, it was backing up and couldn't get around with all of the material in the pipe," said Botelho.

Pavement was laid over the patch and the intersection is currently open. In the meantime, the DPW is seeking an efficient means to permanently repair the sewer line.

Botelho's is still relatively new to the city but the longtime engineer has completed a number of successful DPW projects, first as a city engineer and now superintendent after her promotion in March 2019. Nonetheless, in respects to her tenure in Chicopee, the sinkhole that occurred on July 15 was unprecedented.

"I've been with the city for almost three years, and that was the biggest sinkhole that we've had. It's not a naturally occurring sinkhole; it's due to a utility break," she said.

Law school to hold virtual discussion July 27

SPRINGFIELD – The Western New England University School of Law's Center for Social Justice will host "From the Courthouse to the Streets: Lawyering in the Time of Black Lives Matter" Monday, July 27 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. This event is free and open to all with registration.

Attendees of the virtual panel will be able to hear from a group of nationally-curated experts who will answer the question: what place does lawyering hold in this moment of grand social transformation?

> *"If we can have the bar set at protecting and making sure Black Lives Matter, the law will be more just and fair to all."*
>
> **– Atty. Kylar Broadus**

"This panel is an outstanding opportunity for the first time to hold the law accountable for Black lives in a positive way," said atty. Kylar Broadus, trans rights activist and founder of the Trans People of Color Coalition. "While we march, and call for change, we must make sure to put into action changes that truly impact, reform, abolish, make and implement positive changes that protect all lives-but especially Black lives. If we can have the bar set at protecting and making sure Black Lives Matter, the law will be more just and fair to all."

The panel will include Dr. Jodie Roure, of John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Tyler Crawford, director, Mass. Defense for the National Lawyers Guild; Carlton Williams, movement lawyer; and WNEU professor Jennifer Levi, director of GLAD's Transgender Rights Project.

Launched in 2019, the Center for Social Justice is designed to strengthen collaborative efforts between the School of Law and the region to work toward a more just, equitable and inclusive society in its next century of service. The Center provides a centralized hub of activity and innovation for the School of Law's justice-related teaching, scholarship, and service. It also broadens social justice academic offerings, helps students aspiring to be social justice lawyers achieve their goals, manages in-house pro bono projects, and works closely with community organizations and partners to identify and address unmet needs that require a multi-dimensional response cutting across law and other fields.

To register, visit https://bit.ly/3gCX-sDz.

For more information, contact Ariel Clemmer at ariel.clemmer@law.wne.edu or Bridgette Baldwin at bbaldwin@law.wne.edu.

Matthew Francis takes role as assistant superintendent

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

Matthew Francis

When Matthew Francis arrived at Bellamy Middle School in 2000, he never anticipated spending two decades in the building. Now, the longtime principal has taken on a new role in the district, as assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction.

"I'm going to miss the relationships with the adults that I've had over the course of 20 years there at Bellamy, but I think that the number one thing that I miss when I look back will be the students; the everyday interactions," said Francis.

Born and raised in Ohio, Francis majored in early education at John Carroll University and taught in classrooms in both his home state and Colorado before being hired at Bellamy in 2000. After serving several years as a teacher and vice principal, Francis was promoted to principal, a position he held for the past 14 years.

On July 1, Francis relocated to the School Department headquarters at 180 Broadway St. where he inherited his new position. Under the direction of Superintendent of Schools Lynn Clark, Francis' office will oversee standardized testing, English language learning curriculum and personnel, and the district's reopening, among other responsibilities.

"Anything that teaching and learning pretty much touches; that's what this office is responsible for," said Francis. "We work on curriculum, state standards, scope and sequences, adoption of curriculum, adoption of books and anything that has to with curriculum or instruction."

Francis has worked alongside Clark for many years and hopes to build upon the positive professional relationship that the two have formed. As principal of Gen. John J. Stefanik Elementary School, Clark mentored the children that would eventually enter Bellamy.

"I had the pleasure of working with her for the 14 years that I was the principal of Bellamy," said Francis. "The one benefit both of us have is that we came in from district positions so we have a vision of how we would like to add on to or refine practices. There's that energy of two people who have seen 20 years of how Chicopee has grown. To be able to continue on that path to excellence is extremely energizing."

Only 3 miles separate Bellamy Middle School from 180 Broadway St., but Francis is well aware that his new job will be much different than his old one. Nonetheless, he's optimistic that his experiences at Bellamy will enable him to impact the district on a greater scale.

"What I'm going to miss most is the day-to-day interactions with the students, but it's important to get out to the buildings on a regular basis to be able to see them in action," said Francis, who has already visited 10 district schools since his promotion earlier this month.

"I can't sit at this pedestal at 180 and make recommendations and mandates without actually seeing things in practice. That's going to be one of my goals; to go to buildings every single week and get out there so that I can still get that interaction with the students that I will crave but be able to do my job effectively instead of just overseeing in this watch tower type of location," he continued.

As an educator and administrator, Francis cherishes the bonds that he's formed with students, acknowledging that a former Bellamy student and recent Chicopee graduate even sent him an invitation to a graduation party. The nature of those relationships have fueled the passion that carried Francis to his new position.

"As long as you have the passion, any job that you want to do well, you can be successful at. That's the driving force," said Francis. "Things will change in any industry, including in education, but as long as you have that passion that originally got you into the profession and can keep that, you'll be successful."

MHA opens two new GRIT residential recovery programs

SPRINGFIELD – MHA is opening two new GRIT residential recovery programs in Springfield and Holyoke. These homes join the first GRIT location in Springfield which opened in April 2019. GRIT homes are for adults who have both a substance use disorder and a moderate-to-severe mental health diagnosis. Significantly, the program at each GRIT home has been created to address the specific needs of a distinct population. The first home in Springfield is for adult men, the new Springfield home works with transition-aged young men ages 18 to 26, and the new Holyoke home focuses on and adult (18 years and older) LGBTQ+ population.

GRIT provides a safe, homelike environment where residents benefit from programming that is supportive, structured, and developmentally appropriate . Program staff includes experienced, licensed and highly-skilled case managers, psychiatrists, clinicians, recovery coaches and other members of MHA's recovery team, each selected because of their passion for working with the populations served in each of the new GRIT homes.

"In each GRIT residence, we have intentionally created an environment to serve the unique needs of each specific population," said Christine Palmieri, vice president, Division of Recovery and Housing for MHA. "For example, the path in life that leads someone to need the level of support provided in the Holyoke home has been influenced by their experiences as a member of the LGBTQ+ community. We created an environment to address and honor that path and those experiences, to offer support and services that are not only trauma informed, but culturally relevant and empowering. When folks complete the program in Holyoke, they'll have the skills to thrive both as members of the LGBTQ+ community , as well as thelarger community and they will be prepared to face the challenges that may bring, without using drugs or alcohol. In similar but distinct ways, each GRIT home is designed to address the unique needs of a specific population, either adult men, transition-aged young men or members of the LGBTQ+ community."

Palmieri emphasized that GRIT acknowledges that recovery is not a distinct event, or a finish line to be crossed. "Rather, people are continually recovering for the rest of their lives, and a co-occurring diagnosis can amplify the challenges. GRIT never hides these facts. Instead, GRIT provides each client with structure, opportunity and support to build inner strength, resiliency and perseverance to continue their journey. The homelike environments at GRIT locations emphasize daily living skills through activities such as cooking groups and menu planning, wellness through activities such as group exercise and nutrition education, career planning through vocational programming and employment search, and intentional engagement with nature and peer supports. We're here to help people build a plan for going back in the community bolstered and with the skills they need to be successful."

Referrals to GRIT can be made by contacting MHA at 844-MHA-WELL or GRIT@mhainc.org.

A regional pillar steps up during pandemic

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

During in the best of times, the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts is one of the region's most important community pillars. Amid the Covid-19 pandemic, the operation has taken on even greater responsibility.

The Food Bank operates out of a bustling 35,000 square foot warehouse in Hatfield, employs approximately 45 workers and oversees the delivery of food items to pantries and kitchens spread throughout all four Western Massachusetts counties.

As the pandemic threatens the financial and food security of thousands of residents, the Food Bank has stood tall, extending lifelines to many.

"In May of 2019, in terms of all of the clients that we served that month, we served 95,000 clients; 8,600 were new clients. Jumping over to May of 2020, we served nearly 110,000; 23,000 are new. Those are people who lost their jobs because of the pandemic; it's pretty significant," said Lillian Baulding, communications and engagement officer.

Since opening in 1982, the Food Bank has prided itself in being able to function and serve during an array of scenarios. Many of the operation's member agencies, including the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry in South Hadley, have seen an uptick in demand this spring and summer.

Fortunately, the food bank's supply chain allowed it to confront the challenge head on. Food Operations Manager Mike Cortis explained that decades of foresight paid off tenfold in 2020.

"As awful as the current situation is, it really tests all of the previous work of everybody who has come through and worked here before. It really allows us to see everything they built and all the successes that they had and really the vision that they had. For us to be successful now, it's because their vision in getting us to this point was correct," said Cortis.

On a daily basis, Food Bank employees prepare more than 50,000 pounds of food for distribution. Last week, the facility distributed 250,000 pounds of food, and this past Monday, 14 trucks arrived to pick up orders.

While the logistics may seem overwhelming, employees meticulously prepare deliveries each day while adhering to Covid-19 safety protocols and keeping the warehouse in pristine condition. Countless community and corporate donations enable them to pick from full shelves.

Brian Longto operates a pallet jack inside the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts on the morning of July 15.

"On the receiving side, we also have four trucks coming in today as well to deliver. That's in addition to farmers and donations we receive from over at [C&S Wholesale Grocers]. We work with farmers all of the time. That's another benefit of being where we are in this part of the Pioneer Valley. We ware so close to all of our farmers, and they really are fantastic," said Cortis.

Baulding noted that Big Y World Class Market delivers a truckload of meat every Tuesday. She added that everyday residents can contribute to the cause by providing small monetary donations, which provide more bang for the buck than canned goods.

"If people want to donate, for every dollar that is donated, we can provide four meals. That can be a dinner for a family of four. Rather than going to the grocery store and buying a can of food that's a dollar, if you donate it to us, we can provide four meals with that," said Baulding, also explaining that household food donations are currently prohibited on account of Covid-19.

Food Operations Manager Mike Cortis stands beside Communications and Engagement Officer Lillian Baulding inside the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts on July 15.

An employee of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts moves pallets of food inside the 35,000 square foot warehouse located in Hatfield. *STAFF PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI*

Working in a warehouse can be exhausting at times, but Cortis' passion is fueled by the fact that the operation serves to help others. He summarized what specifically makes the Food Bank special.

"At the end of the day, even if you are having a bad day, everybody knows that they're still feeding somebody; they're still helping people. I think that really goes a long way with someone's attitude. Everybody here helps out when needed. When we bring somebody in, we want somebody who is invested in the mission," said Cortis.

For more information on the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts and its various programs, one can visit its website at foodbankwma.org.

Big E announces Summer Weekends at Storrowton Village

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Eastern States Exposition recently announced Big E Summer Weekends at Storrowton Village, a place to dine, shop, sip and satisfy your sweet tooth on the grounds of The Big E. The Big E Bakery, Storrowton Tavern, Sam Adams Brew Garden and Storrowton Village Museum & Gift Shop have come together to create a safe, social distancing environment that will allow people to enjoy an afternoon or evening out and support local businesses.

The festivities began Friday, July 17.

Eugene J. Cassidy, president and CEO of ESE, said, "The Exposition is pleased to showcase some of our iconic products and serve as an incubator for our local partners to get back into business after a long hiatus from being able to conduct their operations. We invite the support of our community and our community at large to help us bring life back to the grounds and continue to serve as an economic driver for the region."

The Big E Bakery Drive-Up Window

EJ Dean and his family, from Salisbury Beach, Mass., have operated The Big E Bakery since 2018. They have become residents of Agawam, Mass., and with each year they try to feature something new. They utilize local companies, purchasing products, supplies and ingredients from area businesses.

The successful Taste of The Big E food preview event in June proved the demand for The Big E's iconic Cream Puffs and Eclairs. The Big E Bakery will be open weekends so fans can purchase Big E Cream Puffs and Eclairs all summer long, a first for the Bakery that opened in 2002. Drive up to the New England Center to order singles, three-packs and six-packs for a special occasion, surprise dessert or a tasty treat after work. The bakery will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information and online ordering details, visit www.thebige.com/thebigebakery.

Sam Adams Brew Garden

The fourth generation operating Eddie Shore Enterprises brings the Brew Garden. Their affiliation with Eastern States dates back to the golden years of hockey in the Coliseum. They have operated concessions on the grounds, including the Brew Garden, for more than 60 years.

The Sam Adams Brew Garden, a popular favorite at The Big E, will be open for outdoor dining this summer. Relax and enjoy your favorite Sam Adams brews paired with a menu of appetizers, burgers, pizzas, salads and more. The Brew Garden is located on the Avenue of States behind the Storrowton Village Gift Shop. Summer hours are Fridays from 4 to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.. For full menus and more, visit www.thebige.com/samadamsbrewgarden.

Storrowton Tavern

The Calvanese family, of East Longmeadow, has operated Storrowton Tavern since 2003. Serving the finest, locally sourced foods, the restaurant and banquet house have been the site of generations of family occasions.

In the mood for hearty New England fare? Stop by Storrowton Tavern, just steps away from the Village Green, for indoor and outdoor dining options. Tavern lunch and dinner hours are Tuesday to Thursday from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; with Sunday BBQ Brunch from 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner service from 4 to 8 p.m. For full menus, cocktail hour information, and patio music lineup, visit www.storrowton.com.

Storrowton Village Museum & Gift Shop

Storrowton Village Museum will be open for timed-ticket historic house tours on Tuesdays to Thursdays and family activity blocks on Fridays and Saturdays this summer, through Aug. 29. The museum will also offer ticketed ghost tours on Fridays in August.

Guests can visit the newly remodeled Storrowton Village Gift Shop in the Phillips House, filled with handpicked items for home, garden, fashion, kids, and more. There are sections for New England-made maple products, hand-forged blacksmith items, gifts like "The Big E Book", the Eastern States Exposition Centennial history book and official Big E tartan products that include clutches, coin purses, tissue holders and keychain wristlets.

The Gift Shop is open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday hours are extended to 7 p.m., with extra shopping hours to be added in August. Learn more at www.storrowtonvillage.com.

GUEST COLUMN

Time to learn the system from the inside

By Lee H. Hamilton

I've spent a long time in politics, and over those years one thing has remained constant: There are a lot more Americans who criticize government than there are who serve and do something about it.

I'll admit, there have been times when I've felt a bit resentful. It's hard to enter the fray, be expected to listen patiently to criticism from all comers, and then look around to find that many of them are nowhere to be found when it comes to the hard work of improving our communities and our system.

But far more than annoyance, what I've felt is amazement at the immense but often un-grasped opportunity our system offers. This is especially acute these days, as millions of Americans take to the streets and to social media with passionate intensity, driven by deeply-held beliefs or newfound conviction and a sense that it's time to weigh in. I agree — but then, I think it's always time to weigh in. That's what our system asks of us as citizens. And in particular, I'd argue that it asks us to do it from the inside, not just from the outside.

We desperately need citizens to enter the public arena — people who are not afraid to plunge in and try to improve our democratic institutions. To be sure, critics and ordinary engaged citizens have an important role to play in shaping the public discourse. But if at some point in their lives they and others do not also see a duty to serve, our nation is in trouble.

I know the arguments you can find against it. You have to compromise your values. It's thankless. The system turns you into a cog. You make yourself a target of scrutiny. You can't actually accomplish anything.

To all of this, I say: So? There is no question that our governing institutions need improving. But it's not going to happen unless people with the power to change them roll up their sleeves and set about doing so. And those people are the ones inside those institutions, who've learned how they work and who understand that actual change happens by dint of legislation, administration, and the nitty-gritty details of reform.

There are plenty of other things you can do, too: vote, spend time learning the issues you care about, make informed judgments about your elected representatives, get involved in organizations that advocate for the causes you value. But as writer Andy Smarick put it recently in "The Bulwark," "[G]overning is formative. Knocking on doors as a candidate is not just about winning votes. Sitting through a long bill hearing is not just about following the legislative process. Taking part in public debates is not just about self-expression. Making a tough governing decision is not just about resolving a policy matter. Through these activities, the public servant listens to fellow citizens, learns of competing priorities, and witnesses principles in conflict."

In our democracy, these and other skills are vital, not just for public officials, but for any citizen who wants to be involved in the community. Listening to our peers, understanding their hopes, appreciating the differences among them, grasping why accommodation and compromise are crucial to resolving those differences, and learning how to accomplish them are part and parcel of making a representative democracy work. People who do this feel in their bones how hard it is to govern in a large, diverse republic, and why we depend

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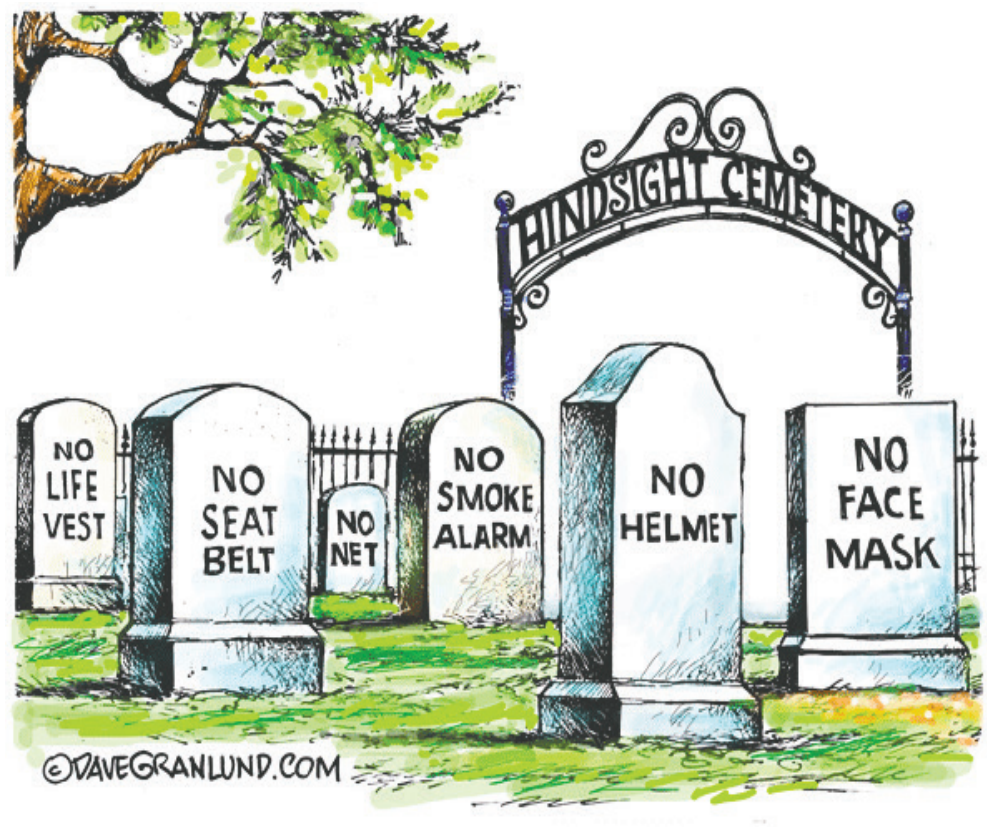

GUEST COLUMN

Common questions regarding tomatoes, shrubs and more

IN THE GARDEN

ROBERTA MCQUAID
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS COLUMNIST

This is a common question about the cracks that often occur on tomatoes: "most of the fruit have circular cracks, almost all the way around, up near the stem end. Is this a disease or nutrient deficiency?"

Neither! What you are describing are growth cracks. Tomatoes generally crack when a droughty period is followed by lots of rain. Cracks tend to be worse if the weather has been hot. The tomatoes on two of the nine plants I am growing in my vegetable garden are exhibiting this problem as well. Some varieties tend to be more "crack tolerant" than others, and are labeled as such in seed catalogs. To prevent future cracks, be sure to water on a regular basis. Don't be afraid to eat damaged fruit; while they aren't pretty, they are edible. More prone to rot, however, so use them quickly.

Autumnal sunflowers

A perennial aficionado from Brimfield is curious about the autumnal sunflower (Helenium autumnale), otherwise known as Sneezeweed. "I absolutely love this plant for the late season color that it adds to my perennial border. My only problem is that it is too tall. I have pinched back perennial asters for years with success. Can this same technique be used to make a stouter clump of Sneezeweed?"

It certainly can. Like you, I love everything about Sneezeweed, except for its height, which can top off at four feet! It is a native plant, which is not bothered by insects or diseases to speak of, has lovely long-lasting yellow or rusty orange flowers and despite what its name implies, doesn't make you sneeze. Years ago I experimented with reducing the height of my own plants and pinched them back twice. They were about 18 inches shorter at bloom time than they would have been and still flowered abundantly. Next year try it for yourself. When the plant is about a foot tall, remove the top few nodes of each shoot. Repeat the pinching process a couple of weeks later, finishing by the end of June. This will give the plant ample time to grow to a respectable height and initiate buds in time for its debut come August.

Yew bushes

"I have some yews growing along the foundation of my house. They are the perfect size right now, but I am worried they will get out of hand. Do you have any pruning tips to pass along?" inquires a Palmer homeowner.

Sure! For this job you will need a pair of hand clippers, not hedge trimmers. New growth is obvious: it is very flexible, lighter in color and extends several inches from the shrub's silhouette. With clippers in hand, grab a branch, and instead of removing just the new growth, make a cut well within the body of the shrub. This process is called "making windows." The windows allow light to penetrate the plant's interior causing regeneration to occur. Repeat in various spots on each shrub for a balanced appearance. Any straggly growth that remains can be nipped back. By pruning in this manner each year, healthy, new growth is encouraged, yet height and width control is maintained. Too labor intensive for you? Alright, use the hedge trimmers first, then make a few windows, for nearly the same effect. Yews were quite popular foundation plants decades ago and are nice evergreens if managed properly and not left to their own devices.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: The Chicopee Register,
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email chicopeeregister@turley.com.
The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to chicopeeregister@turley.com or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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Will high schools be able to play fall sports?

By Gregory A. Scibelli
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REGION – Earlier this year, the high school and college sports worlds were ruined by the cancellation of all spring sports at each level, ranging up through Division 1 schools, and professional sports.

There always seemed to be an optimism at the time that sports would be able to resume without an issue this fall and at the high school level in Massachusetts, athletic directors planned a fall schedule, much like they do each spring as most schedules are made out a season in advance.

But as the summer rages on with next to no activity and sports like soccer and football banned (for having games) despite Massachusetts' improved situation compared to the rest of the country, now fall sports seem to be in doubt.

Several New England colleges and universities have declared that fall sports are postponed due to the recent spikes throughout the rest of the country and concerns over interstate travel and the lack of a vaccine which guarantees the stop of an overwhelming spread of COVID-19.

Massachusetts, as of last week, still maintains a positive test rate of less than 2 percent, but the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is still having to consider the potential impact of allowing high school athletes back on fields, especially with soccer and football contests barred at the amateur level.

The ban does not specifically affect high school players, and the MIAA is working with the governor's office on guidance.

The MIAA's board of directors, which recently changed some of its membership around due to re-districting, was scheduled to meet earlier this week to discuss a potential start date for fall sports.

Ludlow High School Athletic Director Tim Brillo was a former member of the Board of Directors, but lost his seat on July 1 with the re-districting.

"I'm not on the board anymore, but I am hopeful that we will be able to have a fall season," said Brillo.

While Massachusetts is still on a good trajectory with a low infection rate, fear of a spike or a "second wave" if too much activity is allowed, is what is driving some decisions about whether to allow athletics and whether or not some school will involve remote learning this fall.

Agawam High School Athletic Director David Stratton said there are other restrictions he will have to contend with. While there is no interstate travel involved, travel is going to be limited.

"We're only allowed to have a certain number of kids on the buses at a time," said Stratton. "That could limit our ability to have JV games on the road."

He said JV sports could be cancelled altogether, or JV

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Top photo, with football currently banned at the amateur level, will Western Mass. high school football commence in September? Bottom left, Field hockey could be a sport that could resume as it was not on the governor's list of "at-risk" activities. Bottom right, occer was barred for the summer, with the PVSSL canceling its season. MIAA officials are discussing this week whether soccer can be played this fall. *FILE PHOTOS*

Robie gets win in modified race, Sonhalter captures mini-stock battle

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Brian Robie (Sunapee, NH) topped a big field of NHSTRA Modifieds Saturday, July 18, charging from row four to score his first win of the season at Monadnock Speedway. Hillary Renaud (Vernon, VT), meanwhile, led all the way to earn her first season victory in the ultra-competitive Street Stocks.

And, while Renaud was busy scoring her first victory lane celebration, Late Model Sportsman star Aaron Fellows (Croydon, VT) stayed perfect on the year, using a late-race pass to overcome his strongest challenge of the summer en route to victory lane. Vermont pilot Matt Sonnhalter (White River Junction, VT) wired the nightcap 50-lap Mini Stock event.

Matt Sonhalter picks up the win in the mini-stock race *SUBMITTED PHOTO*

There are few sounds in life that come close to that made by a big field of Modifieds thundering atop the blacktop in pursuit of Saturday night glory. That thunder is heard weekly at Monadnock Speedway, where, Saturday, Matt Kimball and Rob Richardi led the 18-car Modified field to battle.

Kimball, gunning to turn a season-long hard luck run around, jumped all over the lead as the 40-lapper went green. Richardi stayed glued to his bumper, with defending track king Todd Patnode quickly entering the hunt.

By lap ten, Patnode held the deuce spot, while two-time 2020 winner Ben Byrne was rocketing up to third. Coming from row five, Byrne took the three-spot on lap 14 but he and Patnode's

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MASCAC suspends fall sports programs

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University athletics announced that the Owls will not have intercollegiate competition for fall sports teams in the Fall 2020 season, in conjunction with the announcement from the league's Council of Presidents on Thursday, July 16, 2020 that the entire Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) will not compete in fall sports programs.

The Owls' fall sports teams (football, men's and women's soccer, field hockey, volleyball, men's and women's cross country and men's and women's golf) will have the ability to practice on campus while utilizing the NCAA Resocialization of Sport Guidelines.

"I am extremely disappointed to have to announce to our student-athletes and families that our fall season teams will not have the opportunity to play intercollegiate games this fall," said athletics director Richard Lenfest, Jr. "The COVID-19 pandemic has had an extreme impact on public health, and ultimately we need to take the steps that best protect the health of our student athletes and their loved ones in limiting the opportunity to spread or contract the virus."

"I am happy that we still be able to provide team activities through practices, conditioning and skill training," added Lenfest. "Athletics provides numerous benefits to our athletes, including strengthening their social networks, health, fitness, and general mental well-being through the

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IN THE CITY

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be gone within weeks. By removing the bees, the congregation is well-positioned to begin rehabilitating the front exterior of the church building.

"It's the oldest [congregation] in Chicopee. This church was built in 1852 so it needs some work on the steeple and the front of the church, which is what drove us to remove the bees. We knew that work had to be completed," said Grimes.

The First Congregational Church played an integral role in the city's foundation. Grimes, the church's 17th settled pastor, detailed the efforts of Rev. John McKinstry, who launched the congregation in the 18th century.

"The city of Chicopee was founded because this church came along," said Grimes. "It was actually the Fifth Congregational of Springfield, and they petitioned for about 12 years in order to break away and become the First Congregational of Chicopee. At that point, the city of Chicopee was founded. You had to have a church back then in order to found a city."

Today, the congregation remains alive and well even in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. Online worship is allowing worship to continue, and Grimes estimates that the church will reopen its doors in late August or early September.

"Other facilities are back open, but we're just making sure that we do it the right way. With the online worship, we've never really been closed," said Grimes.

More information on the First Congregational Church of Chicopee can be located on its Facebook page.

Sperry uses a saw to cut into a pillar at First Congregational Church in order to remove a large beehive.
SUBMITTED PHOTO/GARY GRIMES

SYSTEM from page 4

on large numbers of ordinary people to step forward, find their niche, and participate on town boards, in state legislatures, and in Congress.

So, as I look about at the remarkable levels of public engagement in this intense political year, I find myself hoping that more comes out of it than simple public pressure. I hope that people who'd never considered it before decide it's time to step forward, serve in public office, and help their fellow citizens make this a better country.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

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Holyoke Community College names spring Dean's List

HOLYOKE – Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's List. A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean's List honors for the Spring 2020 semester.

From Chicopee are Tracey Anne Alcaide, Lena Alekseyenko, Abraham Alvarado, Kamila A. Arman, Matthew Aube, Lauren Marie Bailey, Yelena Bazukina, Jillian Beach, Hayli Marie Black, Michael V. Blazhkevich, Edward John Brewer Jr., Cynthia Annette Burgos, Timothy Allen Carleton, Ayumi Castillo, Samantha Marie Cavers, Marcia Chuquilla, George Churchill V, Austin Clark, Maygan Elizabeth Correa, Aneilys Cruz, Evelyn Sophia Cruz, Jared Thomas Cruz, Stephanie Davis, Kayani De Leon, Colin James Deane, Logan Marie Deni, Stephanie Deprey, Nicole Patrice Dunn, Colton James Duxbury, Liam Matthew Earles, Danielle Bianca Eaton, Joseph O. Evborokhai, Brynn Reyes Friedhaber, Maria Garcia, Bryce James Gauthier, Nadia Marie Gomes, Kamitza Gonzalez, Conor Brian Gregersen, Milana Gurt, Aneidaliz Guzman, Matthew Henry, Luis Manuel Heredia Jr., Sandra Hernandez, Jennifer Marie Hudon, Sergey Iakovlev, Owen Jarvis Shea Jarvis, Kevin Juchno, Theresa Ann Kincaid, Anna Korman, Laura Marie Kratovil, Brytton Thomas Krygowski, Hubert Kula, Tugce Kuruca, Igor Lapik, Felicia Ann LaPointe, Samuel Andrew Lemelin, Eduardo Alexandre Cassimiro Lima Sr., Karina Linares, Lucas A. Litchfield, John George Lolos, Felicita Lopez, Nakkita MacDonald, Jordan Nicolas Maroon, Zachary Thomas Martin, Lizaveta Maryskina, Aine Rose Massey-Conway, Jared Joseph Menard, Heather Ann Menard, Sam Michael Methe, Anjouli Tatiana Mora, Kayla Rae Moriarty, Lynn Connie Moynahan, Kevin Francis Murawski, Susana Nute, Nicole Ortiz, Calli Elizabeth Orzechowski, Julimar Otero, Candy Owusu Asante, Brittany Elizabeth Pietskowski, Steven James Proulx, Paige Nicole Provenzano, Melissa Ann Quinn, Brandon Matthew Ricardo, Jessika Marlyn Richards, Sarah Riffenburg, Max Ritter, Aaron L. Rivera, Annalisa Rizzo, Julia Leigh Rodrigue, Amarys Hernandez Rodriguez, Christopher Royster, Fateeha Saeed, Robbie Salloum, Frankie Sanchez Jr., Eric Sawyer, Rhina Searles, Natalie Rae St. George, Hayley Mae Sweetman, Matthew Dennis Tetreault, Nawar Saleh Tifour, Jalene Marie Tremble, Katherine Ann Viens, Matthew Marciene Whitcomb, Kianna Autumn Wilson and Kelsey Wolowicz.

UMass names Dean's List students

AMHERST – The University of Massachusetts-Amherst recently announced its Dean's List for the spring 20202 semester. In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

From Chicopee are Lina Aiman Al Sarafi, Yarangelis Saned Altun, Faiza Rafiq Awan, Ruben Basnet, Ryan Daniel Chretien, Aaron Collette, Elaine R. Cote, Ryan Gabriel Cyr, Ryan Deady, Celine Antoinette Delaronde, Roger C. DesRochers, Rebecca Nicole Duffy, Seth M. Dunlea, Elio Neysi Encarnacion Jr., Evan Andrew Garber, Nicholas Cristobal Garcia, Allison Bethany Grant, Kenneth Charles Heisler, Niah Gazelle Holtz, Meagan Theresa Host, Maxwell August Karlin, Robert N. King, Anna Kot, Lister Marcel Lacen, Allison Sara Lepine, Shelby Zoshia Leslie, Karol Mateusz Liebersbach, Sylwia Ewa Madro, Madelina Mary Montemagni, Melissa Nieves-Torres, Dante Norrington, Mariah Lynn O'Connor, Vidhi Patel, Aaron Charles Pitrat, Zachary Taylor Rattell, Joseph Robert Recchia, Kimberlee Roy, Lucas Rozanski, Christian B. Salamon, Adrian F. Sanmiguel, Nolan Stamborski, Anthony David Syrek, Kristiana Alyssa Tadeo, Nathan David Tellier, Heather Marguerite Thompson, Haley Lynn Whitehead and Gianna Orminda Zamboni.

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Students earn Dean's List at WNEU

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University announced more than 950 students have been named to the spring semester Dean's List. To qualify, a student must earn a semester GPA of 3.30 or higher.

From Chicopee are Ashley Bonilla, Amber Chartier, Irina Dumanetskaya, Szymon Filip, Kassandra Gonzalez, Kimberly Langevin, Jason Martins, Lukasz Soja, Alexia Vincelette, Cory Waring, Benjamin Whitten, Kyle Wolanski, Angelis Zapata, Suliman Alfaiz, Roudhan Alroudhan, Lyndsey Brennan, Alecia Cestroni, Cinthya Gonzalez, Emma Laughlin, Breanna Lowery, Lexus McCollaum, Cody Miller, Julie Miner of Chicopee, Briana O'Connell, Zaineb Radi, Maxon Rivera, Emily Rockwal and Taylor Sawicki.

2 Chicopee students earn degrees at Nichols

DUDLEY – Nichols College recently graduated more than 300 students via virtual celebrations held for both undergraduate and graduate recipients on May 2, including two Chicopee students.

Autumn Richards received Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with a major in hospitality management and human resource management.

Nicholas Lamarre received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with a major in human resource management.

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Organisak defeats Maccario for Mass. Amateur title

MARION – Sudbury native Matthew Organisak, 22, has defeated Waltham's Nick Maccario, 28, by a score of 2 up to capture the 112th Massachusetts Amateur title in Friday's 36-hole championship match at The Kittansett Club in Marion.

This is the first state amateur win for Organisak, who represents Nashawtuc CC in Concord and recently graduated Emory University in Atlanta. Mike Ohanian, the 1968 champion, is the only other person to win it while representing Nashawtuc. Organisak also won the 2019 Francis Ouimet Memorial Tournament, also a Mass Golf championship.

Organisak joins Patrick Frodigh (2018) and Ben Spitz (2006) as the only left-handed golfers to win it since 2000.

Match Summary: The first 18 holes ended in a tie, with both men winning five holes. Organisak won four of the first six holes over the next 18 holes and never trailed. He birdied the 9th (27th overall) and 10th (28th) to take a 4-up lead. Maccario won the 12th (30th) and 13th (31st) and made birdie on the 17th (35th) to cut it to 1 up, but Organisak was on the 18th (36th) green in three, and Maccario conceded after missing his par putt.

Organisak, 22, made his first appearance in the Mass Amateur championship final. The Sudbury native is a recent graduate of Emory University in Atlanta where he finished No. 2 for program scoring average, posting a mark of 73.04 strokes over 86 rounds of play. Organisak, a former standout at Lincoln-Sudbury High School, won the 2019 Francis Ouimet Memorial Tournament, and in 2016, qualified for the U.S. Amateur.

Maccario, 28, made his first appearance in the Mass Amateur championship final. He won the 2019 Mass Mid-Amateur championship and the 2019 Mass Four-Ball (with Mike Calef). He also played in the 2019 U.S. Amateur at Pinehurst No. 2 & No. 4 in North Carolina. He attended St. John's Prep in high school and also had a stint on the St. Anselm College men's golf team.

Racing to resume in Thompson

THOMPSON, Conn. – Econn Motorsports and Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park announced this week an agreement that will enable oval track racing to continue on the famed 5/8th mile at Thompson, CT. A tentative 2020 schedule has been developed with the first event being an open practice on Wednesday, July 8.

Plans currently call for Econn Motorsports to also host an open practice on Wednesday, August 5. Racing is set to resume with the Bud 150 on Wednesday August 19 and the Sunoco World Series on October 9-11. The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is expected to headline both race dates. The parties are exploring the possibility of additional race meets during 2020.

Econn Motorsports is a newly formed race promotion and consulting firm headed by Terry Eames, former General Manager of Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. "The COVID-19 pandemic put oval track racing at Thompson in 2020 at risk. We are proud to announce that the Hoenig family and Econn have found a way for oval track racing to continue during the track's 80th year and beyond", Eames said.

Specific details of next week's practice will be available over the next several days at EconnMotorsports.com. Tickets will only be available online and in advance in keeping with the policies set forth by the State of Connecticut designed to limit the spread of COVID-19.

SPORTS from page 5

squads could have geographically limited schedules or parents could be responsible for transportation.

He also said EEE (Eastern Equine Enchephalitis) becomes a major factor as there are confirmed cases. He said the EEE wrinkle in the region could further limit sports because game times would have to be before dark until there is a frost.

Stratton said there is a possibility that sports like soccer and football could experience a delay, while sports not labeled at as high a risk, like golf, cross country, and volleyball, could be allowed to play immediately.

"These are all things being discussed by the MIAA and it's committees," said Stratton, who is part of the sports medicine sub-committee. "Hopefully we have will have some answers soon."

PROGRAMS from page 5

benefit of exercise. Student-athletes will be able to train with their coaches, and while group sizes and activities may be modified to meet health guidelines, there is still the opportunity to reap the benefits provided by college athletics."

A decision on the winter sport seasons was deferred until September by the Council of Presidents.

The NCAA has issued several blanket waivers regarding eligibility. Student-athletes who's teams compete in less than 50 percent of that sports maximum allowable games for the fall 2020 season will not use a year of eligibility, so that Owl fall sport athletes who take part in team practices and activities will not lose a year of eligibility.

"The NCAA has acted swiftly to ensure that student-athletes do not unduly lose eligibility due to the pandemic's impact on competition," said Lenfest. "Our staff will be available to our athletes to answer any questions they have about eligibility."

The MASCAC is also investigating the ability to allow fall-season sports to compete in the spring, should public health conditions allow for it, pending NCAA rules.

"Ultimately, we are committed to providing the best experience and the safest experience for our student athletes," said Lenfest. "This fall, the safest option is to not compete in intercollegiate games, but we can provide the best possible experience given the current health situation by having team practices and training. We are fully committed to getting back to intercollegiate competition as quickly as possible, as allowed under the Conference and NCAA Guidelines, as well as local, State and Federal health guidelines permit."

Owl student athletes will not return to campus early for preseason in 2020, they will instead follow the Safe Fall Opening procedures established by the University, and team activities will start in early September. Coaches will be reaching out to their individual teams and players to further outline team plans and training schedules.

Westfield State athletics has consistently been the top program in the MASCAC. The Owls won the 2019-20 Howard C. Smith Cup, signifying the best overall athletics program in the league based on regular season records, and the Owls have claimed the Cup five times in the last six years and nine times since 2007.

Relics return to action

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics, which is a summer/fall Senior Softball recreational slow pitch League has resumed play last week. The Relics field two divisions: the silver division is comprised of men 50-64 years of age and the bronze division is men 65 and over.

For the more competitive player there is opportunity to join a travel team and participate in local, regional and national tournaments.

Teams in both divisions normally play two games a week in the evenings, with all games played at the Fish & Game Club in Ludlow. These weekly games emphasize fun, friendship and good sportsmanship.

This year due to the coronavirus all players have to wear masks in the field except the outfielders. The players temperatures are taken before they enter the field. If a player has a temperature, the player must leave the field and return home. Players must bring a lawn chair so they can social distance when a team is batting. The Relics have dispensed with hand shaking, fist bumps and any other contact with players.

For further information or to join the league contact Steve Lepow at 860-885-4556 or Ted Chmura at 413-589-1965.

RACE from page 5

battle would be a short one. Coming quickly onto a cloud of lappers on lap 18, the potent pair came together, ending Patnode's night early for the second week in a row and sending Byrne to the rear.

The turn-one tangle brought Robie alongside Kimball on the restart and, two laps later, he had the point, then dashing off to victory just ahead of the second-generation hot shoe, with Byrne charging back through the pack to finish third on the night. Robie's victory moved him to the top of the points parade.

The Curtis twins, Chase and Jaret, did all they could to keep Hillary Renaud from taking her first career Street Stock victory lap but, on this night, the Vernon, VT. driver could not be stopped.

Chase Curtis was all over her back bumper for most of the race, sometimes even bumping it, without finding a path to the point, while brother Jaret did the same due diligence in his shadow. With the white flag in the air, Jaret rocketed low through turn two to claim the deuce, then watching Renaud flash under the checkers just ahead of him. Chris Buffone was fourth on the night, and Mike Radzuik rounded out the top five.

Cole Littlewood did something Saturday that nobody else had accomplished so far this season, outrun Aaron Fellows for 21 laps in the LMS feature. Piloting the Steve Brehio ride, Littlewood kept Fellows in his shadow until the Croydon pilot took a wheels-length advantage on lap 22, and then soared off to victory.

Robert Hagar powered into second on the white flag lap, with Littlewood completing his strong night's work in third. The victory was Fellows' second of the weekend and kept him undefeated this season.

Matt Sonnhalter was in the house Saturday to hunt for victory in the 50-lap Mini Stock main event, the first leg of the regional 2020 Battle for The Belt series. And while the speedway's weekly racing series drivers did well, nobody could catch the speedy Sonnhalter.

Nathan Wenzel and Jared Soucy were frequently closest to Sonnhalter, but it was 2019 track champ Louie Maher II who came closest at the end. Firing from way back in row eight, Maher methodically charged forward, getting past potent Gordon Farnum late to claim the runner-up hardware. Farnum's third place run moved him back atop the hometrack points parade.

Next Saturday, July 25, the thundering NEMA Midgets and NEMA Lites will join the Monadnock Speedway weekly racing series divisions for an exciting night of racing on the high banks. Advanced General Admission Tickets are available. For more information, please visit www.monadnockspeedway.com.

Monadnock Speedway July 18, 2020 results:

NHSTRA MODIFIEDS: Brian Robie, Matt Kimball, Ben Byrne, Trevor Bleau, Anthony Bello, Solomon Brow, Rob Richradi, Kim Rivet, Keith Carzello, Kevin Pittsinger, Brian Crunden, Jason Houle, Jerry Gomarlo, Eric Leclair, Cory Plummer, Cameron Houle, Scott MacMichael, Todd Patnode

MINI STOCK (50-lap Battle for The Belt): Matt Sonhalter, Louie Maher, Gordon Farnum, Dan Sweeney, Nathan Sweeney, Kevin Clayton, Billy Chaffee, Joshua Hubbard, Tim Leblanc, Jeff Asselin, Shelby Avery, Haydon Grenier, Jake Puchalski, Jared Soucey, Andrew Harmon, Kevin McKnight, Kevin Russell, Bobby Kirker, Pat Houle

STREET STOCK: Hillary Renaud, Jaret Curtis, Chase Curtis, Chris Buffone, Mike Radzuik, Chris Riendeau, Tim Wenzel, Bryan Granger, Paul Barnard, Ben Williams

LATE MODEL SPORTSMAN: Aaron Fellows, Robert Hagar, Cole Littlewood, Camdyn Curtis, Justin Littlewood, Willie Kuhn, Nancy Muni-Ruot, Chris Ballas, Scott Beck

Brian Robie came out on top in the NHSTRA Modified race. *SUBMITTED PHOTO*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Hampden ss.
Western Division
Housing Court
Docket No. 19-CV-958
City of Chicopee v.
The Heirs and Assigns of Genevieve A Taylor
NOTICE OF HEARING TO APPOINT RECEIVER

To: **The Heirs and Assigns of Genevieve A Taylor; Debra Burns, Nancy Provost, Lori Buzzard, Scott Taylor**

A Petition to Enforce the State Sanitary Code has been filed in the Western Division Housing Court concerning the property located at 54 Alfred Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts. The City of Chicopee has filed a motion to appoint a receiver to take control of the property located at 54 Alfred Street, Chicopee. Any person having a connection to this property is invited to participate in telephone conference with the Western Division Housing Court on **July 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.** For information on how to participate in the telephonic hearing, please contact the Chicopee Law Department at 413-594-1520 or the Western Division Housing Court at 413-748-7838.
7/23/2020

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Rimor Properties, LLC to Greenfield Cooperative Bank dated August 11, 2016 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21307, Page 14, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 19th day of August, 2020**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 351-355 Front Street, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

PARCEL I – Beginning on the Northerly side of Front Street at the Southwest corner of land now or formerly of John C. Dupuis and running thence NORTHERLY on land now or formerly of Dupuis, one hundred twenty (120') feet; thence WESTERLY at right angles, seventy (70') feet; thence SOUTHERLY at right angles, one hundred twenty (120') feet; and thence EASTERLY along Front Street, seventy (70') feet to the point of beginning.

Being the premises known as 371 Front Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts.

PARCEL II – The land situated on Grape Street and Ames Avenue, in said Chicopee, containing Eight Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-eight (8,538) square feet, more or less, and all as shown on a plan made by Durkee, White, Towne & Chapdelaine, Engineers, 1694 Main Street, Springfield, Massachusetts, and numbered 77-3684, being more particularly bounded and described as follows: -

Parcel A: - Beginning at a point in the Easterly line of Grape Street, said point being one hundred five and 83/100 (105.83') feet North of the Northerly line of Front Street and being the Southwesterly corner of the Parcel herein described and land now or formerly of the Ames Museum Association, Inc.; thence N 16º 39' 53" E, sixty-eight and 01/100 (68.01') feet along Grape Street to a point at land now or formerly of John Stec; thence S 74º 30' E, ninety-eight and 58/100 (98.58') feet along said land now or formerly of Stec to a point; thence N 16º 01' E, forty-nine and 88/100 (49.88') feet along said land now or formerly of Stec to a point in the Southerly line of Ames Avenue; thence S 84º 50' E, fifteen (15') feet along said Ames Avenue to a point at land of the Ames Museum Association, Inc.; thence S 15º 30' W, one hundred twenty and 57/100 (120.57') feet along land now or formerly of the said Ames Museum Association. to a point; and thence N 74º 30' W, one hundred fifteen and 17/100 (115.17') feet along land of the said Ames Museum Association. to a point in the Easterly line of Grape Street, the point of beginning.

And the land situated on Front Street, Grape Street and Ames Avenue, in said Chicopee, containing thirty thousand six hundred ninety-two (30,692) square feet, more or less, and all as shown on a plan made by Durkee, White, Towne & Chapdelaine, Engineers, 1694 Main Street, Springfield, Massachusetts, and numbered 77-3684, being more particularly bounded and described as follows: -

Parcel B: - Beginning at a point where the Northerly line of Front Street intersects with the Easterly line of Grape Street, said point being at the Southwesterly corner of the parcel herein described, and running thence N 16º 39' 55" E, one hundred five and 83/100 (105.83') feet along Grape Street to a point at land now or formerly of the Ames Museum Association, Inc.; thence S 74º 30' E, one hundred fifteen and 17/100 (115.17') feet along land now or formerly of said Ames Museum to a point; thence N 15º 30' E, one hundred twenty and 57/100 (120.57') feet along land now or formerly of said Ames Museum to a point in the Southerly line of Ames Avenue; thence S 84º 50' E, eighty (80') feet along Ames Avenue to a point at land now or formerly of Slowak; thence S 15º 30' W, two hundred forty and 73/100 (240.73') feet along land now or formerly of said Slowak, and land now or formerly of Turner to a point in the Northerly line of Front Street thence N 74º 30' W, one hundred ninety-six and 02/100 (196.02') feet along Front Street to a point in the Easterly line of Grape Street, the place of beginning.

PARCEL III

First Parcel – Beginning at a point on the Northerly side of Front Street and the Westerly side of Chase Place (formerly Steward Place) as shown on a plan recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans 2, Page 94, and running thence NORTHERLY on the Westerly line of said Chase Place, as shown on said plan, one hundred eleven and 70/100 (111.70') feet to the Southerly line of Lot #12 (twelve) as shown on said plan; thence WESTERLY on the Southerly line of Lot #12 (twelve) sixty-two (62') feet; thence SOUTHERLY in a line parallel with the Westerly line of Chase Place, about one hundred eleven and 70/100 (111.70') feet to Front Street; and thence EASTERLY on Front Street, sixty-two (62') feet to the place of beginning.

Second Parcel – Beginning at the Northeast corner of land purchased by the late John C. Dupuis, from the John Thompson Estate, and running thence WESTERLY sixty-two (62') feet; thence NORTHERLY at right angles, fifty (50') feet; thence EASTERLY at right angles, sixty-two (62') feet; and thence SOUTHERLY at right angles, along Chase Place to the point of beginning.

Subject to a taking of 18 square feet by City of Chicopee dated November 3, 2006 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 16343, Page 64.

BEING the same premises conveyed to Rimor Properties, LLC by Deed of Richard E. Discenza, Trustee of MLJD Realty Trust, dated May 18, 2015 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20709, Page 152."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the purchaser's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 ($50,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale, said deposit to be increased to an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the purchase price, within five (5) business days of the sale, to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Greenfield Cooperative Bank,

Present Holder of said Mortgage

By:
/s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein
Jonathan C. Sapirstein
SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1331 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 827-7500
Its Attorneys

Date: July 10, 2020

7/16, 7/23, 7/30/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P1093EA
Estate of:
Sandra Marie Mosher
Also known as:
Sandra M Mosher
Date of Death: 11/01/2017
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Robert N Mosher** of Pompano Beach, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Robert N Mosher** of Pompano Beach, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/13/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 09, 2020

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
07/23/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD20P1015EA
Estate of:
JEANNETTE C ST. GEORGE
Date of Death: April 2, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner **JENNIFER M PUTNAM of Chicopee MA**

Petitioner **BERNARD G ST. GEORGE of Chicopee MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

JENNIFER M PUTNAM of Chicopee MA

BERNARD G ST. GEORGE of Chicopee MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
07/23/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P1061EA
Estate of:
Paul D Gilpatrick
Also known as:
Paul Donald Gilpatrick, Sr.
Date of Death: 05/22/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Gail M McIntyre** of Hopewell Junction, NY requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Gail M McIntyre** of Hopewell Junction, NY be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/31/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 03, 2020

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
07/23/2020

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by **Interstate Towing, Inc.** pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **July 24, 2020** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1987 BMW 325I
VIN: WBABB1303H8270287
Joseph Ryan
25 Maple St, Apt 21
Florence, MA 01062

1997 HONDA ACCORD
VIN: 1HGCE1890VA008304
Davon Britton
14 Abbey St
Chicopee, MA 01020

1997 TOYOTA RAV4
VIN: JT3HP10V9V7060457
Elaine Cigas
173 Roosevelt Ave
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

1999 AUDI A4 2.8 QUATTRO
VIN: WAUED28D3XA321982
Laura Conant
5 Red Oaks Cir
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

2001 HONDA CR80RB
VIN: JH2HE04381K500851
Unknown

2003 HONDA ODYSSEY
VIN: 5FNRL186X3B154251
Shawn Oski
99 Edgemont St
Springfield, MA 01109

2005 BUICK LACROSS
VIN: 2G4WC532X51228011

See NOTICES page 11

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HILLTOWNS **MONDAY AT NOON**

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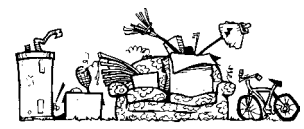

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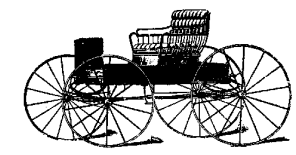

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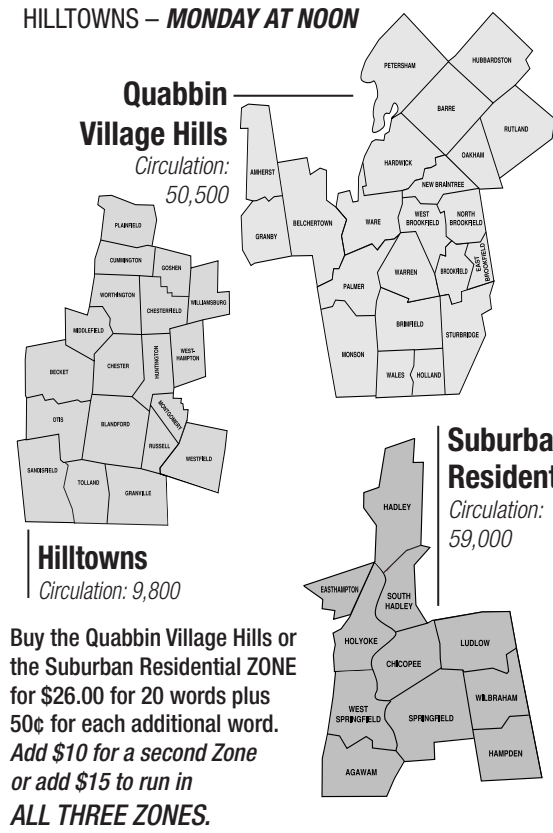
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price $26.00
21 Base Price $26.50	22 Base Price $27.00	23 Base Price $27.50	24 Base Price $28.00
25 Base Price $28.50	26 Base Price $29.00	27 Base Price $29.50	28 Base Price $30.00
29 Base Price $30.50	30 Base Price $31.00	31 Base Price $31.50	32 Base Price $32.00
33 Base Price $32.50	34 Base Price $33.00	35 Base Price $33.50	36 Base Price $34.00
37 Base Price $34.50	38 Base Price $35.00	39 Base Price $35.50	40 Base Price $36.00



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NOTICES from page 9

Reynold Marshall
38 Worthy St
Springfield, MA 01104

2005 FORD EXPEDITION
VIN: 1FMFU18595LA56220
Bruce Cusick
1300 Washington St
East Weymouth, MA 02189

2005 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
VIN: 1J4GR48K45C555356
Katherine Dejesus
675 High St Apt 2RF
Holyoke, MA 01040

2005 TBA1 MASTER
VIN: LLCHYP1C941006059
Ryan McCarthy
38B A St
West Warren, MA 01092

2006 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: 2HGFA16876H515593
Tyshawna Burly
103 Stonina Dr
Chicopee, MA 01013

2007 HONDA CIVIC
VIN: 2HGFG12827H584469
Raven Sallio
51 Fort Pleasant St
Springfield, MA 01108

2011 DODGE AVENGER
VIN: 1B3BD4FB4BN537460
Ryan Yarmesky
24 Parker St
Westfield, MA 01085

2012 HINO 258/268
VIN: 5PVNJ8JT5C4S53922
JK Delivery LLC
130 North Ave
Hillside, NJ 07205

2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO
VIN: 3GCUKREC4FG528650
Michael Geshwind
63 Granby Rd
Granville, MA 01034

2015 KENWORTH CONSTRUCT T680
VIN: 1XKYD49X6FJ431951
G.O. Freight Transportation, LLC
3196 Mount Zion Rd,
Apt 3302
Stockbridge, GA 30281

2019 FORD FIESTA
VIN: 3FADP4EJ8KM131284
John Branconnier
3 Hardwood Cross Rd
Brookfield, MA 01506

SSR DIRT BIKE
VIN: A5SDD2R3JDC011256
Joham Berrios
23 Carl St #2
Springfield, MA 01104

7/09, 7/16, 7/23/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P1086EA
Estate of:
Theodore Stanley Chmura, Jr.
Also known as:
Theodore Stanley Chmura,
Theodore S Chmura, Jr.
Date of Death: 04/16/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by: **Kathleen A Chmura-Fournier** of Springfield, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Kathleen A Chmura-Fournier** of Springfield, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/05/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland,** First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 08, 2020

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
7/23/2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD20P0998EA
Estate of:
BERNARD J ST. GEORGE
Date of Death: April 25, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner **JENNIFER M PUTNAM of Chicopee MA**

Petitioner **BERNARD G ST. GEORGE of Chicopee MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

JENNIFER M PUTNAM of Chicopee MA

BERNARD G ST. GEORGE of Chicopee MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
07/23/2020

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by **Interstate Towing, Inc.** pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **July 31, 2020** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

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7/16, 7/23, 7/30/2020

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FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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FOOD from page 1

brary. She mentioned how she used 'Booker the Bookmobile' a couple years ago and partnered with Loraine's Soup Kitchen to [drive around and] donate boxes of food. She was saying that it was amazing how fast those boxes would go," said Shwachman.

Different factors drew each participant to the table last week. but their motives were largely all the same; to exterminate hunger downtown Chicopee. Shwachman described how each unique perspective bolstered the group's collective vision.

"Some of the folks in the area have been working to get families in the area food on a case by case basis. Some people are coming from the perspective of working with youths in the community," she said. "Others have just lived in Chicopee their whole lives and are interested in seeing a more flourishing restaurant scene with outdoor seating and music and more of a cultural experience for folks downtown."

The Food Force currently has its eyes set on a number of grant opportunities that have become available during the pandemic. At the top of the list is Food Security Infrastructure Grant, which is sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Public Health.

"Right now, we're trying to pursue some of these grants that are available. There's a ton of great funding available. The team will be pursing grants to access some of these things and potentially create some new spaces downtown. We hope to open up the conversation for folks who want to contribute and join," said Shwachman.

For more information, one can view the Food Force's Facebook and Instagram Pages. The group can also be contacted via email at foodforcechicopee@gmail.com or by mailing the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce at 48 Center St. Suite 201, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Shwachman is optimistic that the group will strengthen its numbers as the summer continues. In the meantime, she and her peers will continue to promote the importance of and need for food accessibility and equality in Chicopee Center.

"It's exciting to be downtown and feel all of the potential and momentum that is building. I think in the next few years there will be a lot of changes. I think that a lot of folks are appreciating being outdoors more and outdoor dining opportunities. It's an opportunity for people to experience public spaces in new ways," said Shwachman.

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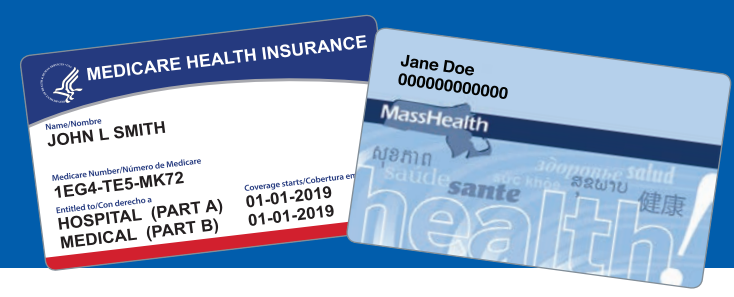

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